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NEWS.

DR. A. NESTLER has been appointed assistant professor in the German University at Prag.

DR. R. HEGLER, *privat-docent* in the University of Rostock, died at Stuttgart on September 28.

SIR JOSEPH HOOKER has been elected one of the foreign associates of the French Academy of Sciences, Institute of France.—*Gard. Chron.*

THE SECOND MEETING of the naturalists of the central states was held at Chicago, on December 27 and 28, in the biological buildings of the University of Chicago. There was a good attendance of both zoologists and botanists. Among the latter were Messrs. Ramaley of Colorado, Pound of Nebraska, Thom of Missouri, Shimek of Iowa, MacMillan of Minnesota, Timberlake, Densmore, and Smith of Wisconsin, Millspaugh, Hill, Caldwell and Holferty of Illinois, Mottier and King of Indiana, Grover of Ohio, Copeland of West Virginia, and Jeffrey of Toronto. The visitors, together with the botanical staff of the University of Chicago, and the ten or twelve graduate students who were still at the University during the holidays, made up a satisfactory botanical attendance. The papers were numerous enough to demand the division on Friday afternoon into botanical and zoological sections. The botanical papers were as follows: H. C. COWLES, H. N. WHITFORD, and C. C. ADAMS: The relation of base-leveling to specific differentiation. A symposium, treated from the standpoint of both plants and animals. B. M. DAVIS: Coenogametes. H. G. TIMBERLAKE: Swarmspore formation in Hydrodictyon. G. H. SHULL: Variation in the florets and bracts of *Aster puniceus* Linn. H. N. WHITFORD: The genetic development of the forests of northern Michigan and a consideration of the factors controlling the distribution of coniferous forests. E. C. JEFFREY: An anatomical classification of vascular plants. H. C. COWLES: Application of the quantitative method to the dynamical study of plant societies. R. B. THOMSON: North American Chalazogams. O. W. CALDWELL: The use of color photography in demonstration work. J. H. FAULL: Some interesting features in the anatomy of the Osmundaceae. E. B. COPELAND: Stomata of some Liliaceae. The success of this meeting justifies the expectation that a society of the naturalists of the upper Mississippi valley meeting at this time of year, can be made successful. A third meeting, at which a formal organization may be effected, will be held in Chicago in December 1901.